

Washington, D.C. – Chris Chocola, President of The Club for Growth, the nation's leading free-market advocacy organization, with over 55,000 members, announced that U.S. Congressman Mike Pence has earned the annual Defender of Economic Freedom award. The award honors Members of Congress who have a strong voting record on economic growth issues.

“With his score, Congressman Pence has demonstrated a clear commitment to economic liberty and growth,” said Chocola. “During one of the toughest economic years in memory, he showed that the principles of free enterprise and free markets are the only way to create jobs and rescue our economy.”

The award is based on certain votes in 2009 that the Club for Growth tracks on its scorecard. The study included a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker’s record on pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies. Those lawmakers scoring 90 or higher receive the Defender of Economic Freedom award.

“The scorecard is an important tool in providing constituents the opportunity to see how their representative and senators vote,” Chocola added. “We hope that in each year to come, support for commonsense economic principles will continue to grow, allowing more members to earn this award and more Americans to benefit.”

The rating examines legislative actions that reflect the Club for Growth’s immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including cutting and limiting government spending, lowering taxes, expanding free trade, regulatory reform and deregulation.